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NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Following consultations of the Security Council, the President made the following statement, on behalf of the Council, at its 2979th meeting on 3 March 1991, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation between Iraq and Kuwait":

"The Council welcomes the decisions taken to date relating to food and medical needs by the Committee established under resolution 661 including those just taken to facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance including infant formula and water purification material.

"It calls upon the Committee to continue to act promptly on requests submitted to it for humanitarian assistance.

"It urges the Committee to pay particular attention to the findings and recommendations on critical medical/public health and nutritional conditions in Iraq which have been and will continue to be submitted to it by the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other relevant organizations, consistent with the relevant resolutions, and urges these humanitarian agencies to play an active role in this process and co-operate closely with the Committee in its work.

"The Council welcomes the Secretary-General's announcement that he plans to send urgently a mission led by Under-Secretary-General Martti Ahtisaari comprising representatives of the appropriate United Nations agencies to Iraq and Kuwait to assess the humanitarian needs arising in the immediate post crisis environment. The Council invites the Secretary-General to keep it informed in the shortest possible time on the progress of his mission on which it pledges to take immediate action."